

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
ALEXANDRIA DIVISION**

AMAZON.COM, INC. and AMAZON
DATA SERVICES, INC.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

WDC HOLDINGS LLC dba NORTHSTAR
COMMERCIAL PARTNERS; BRIAN
WATSON; STERLING NCP FF, LLC;
MANASSAS NCP FF, LLC; NSIPI
ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER; NOVA
WPC LLC; WHITE PEAKS CAPITAL LLC;
VILLANOVA TRUST; CARLETON
NELSON; CASEY KIRSCHNER;
ALLCORE DEVELOPMENT LLC;
FINBRIT HOLDINGS LLC; CHESHIRE
VENTURES LLC; 2010 IRREVOCABLE
TRUST; SIGMA REGENERATIVE
SOLUTIONS LLC; CTBSRM, INC.;
RODNEY ATHERTON; DEMETRIUS VON
LACEY; RENRETS LLC,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 1:20-CV-484-RDA-TCB

800 HOYT LLC,

Intervening Interpleader
Plaintiff, Intervening
Interpleader Counter-
Defendant,

v.

BRIAN WATSON; WDC HOLDINGS, LLC;
BW HOLDINGS, LLC,

Interpleader Defendants,

and

AMAZON.COM, INC., and AMAZON
DATA SERVICES, INC.,

Interpleader Defendants,
Interpleader Counter-Plaintiffs.

**PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR LEAVE
TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL**

In accordance with the relevant Sealing Order (Dkt. 652), Plaintiffs Amazon.com, Inc. and Amazon Data Services, Inc. respectfully seek leave to file under seal the unredacted version of Plaintiffs' Memorandum in Support of Plaintiffs' Response to Watson Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Multiple Summary Judgment Motions.

Although "the common law and the First Amendment presume a public right of access to court documents," *Malon v. Franklin Financial Corp.*, 2014 WL 12768782, at *2 (E.D. Va. Dec. 4, 2014) (citing *Stone v. Univ. Md. Med. Sys. Corp.*, 855 F.2d 178, 180 (4th Cir. 1988)), "the Fourth Circuit has nonetheless stated that a district court 'may, in its discretion, seal documents if the public's right of access is outweighed by competing interests,'" *id.* (quoting *In re Knight Publ'g Co.*, 743 F.2d 231, 235 (4th Cir. 1984)). In determining whether to grant a motion to seal, the district court must engage with three requirements articulated by the Fourth Circuit in *Ashcraft v. Conoco, Inc.*: "[I]t must (1) provide public notice of the request to seal and allow interested parties a reasonable opportunity to object, (2) consider less drastic alternatives to sealing the documents, and (3) provide specific reasons and factual findings supporting its decision to seal the documents and for rejecting the alternatives." 218 F.3d 288, 302 (4th Cir. 2000).

Plaintiffs' request to seal the unredacted version of the Memorandum satisfies all three *Ashcraft* factors. Regarding the first factor, the public will have adequate notice of Plaintiffs' request to seal, through the accompanying motion and notice of motion to seal as required by Local Civil Rule 5. As to the second and third *Ashcraft* factors, sealing is appropriate, and no less drastic alternatives exist. The unredacted version of the Memorandum is not publicly available, and it contains or reflects sensitive information that this Court has ordered sealed. Dkt. 652. Plaintiffs therefore respectfully request that the Court grant this motion. *See, e.g., Mars*,

Inc. v. J.M. Smucker Co., 2017 WL 11499735 (E.D. Va. Aug. 9, 2017) (granting motion to seal where “the information sought to be filed under seal may contain data and information that [were] designated as ‘Confidential,’ . . . under the Amended Protective Order governing th[e] case”); *Malon*, 2014 WL 12768782, at *3 (granting motion to seal where documents were marked “confidential” pursuant to a protective order).

Dated: June 28, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica S. Moyé (*pro hac vice*)
GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP
2001 Ross Avenue, Suite 2100
Dallas, TX 75201
Telephone: (214) 698-3100
Facsimile: (214) 571-2900
vmoye@gibsondunn.com

/s/ Michael R. Dziuban
Elizabeth P. Papez (*pro hac vice*)
Patrick F. Stokes (*pro hac vice*)
Jason J. Mendro (*pro hac vice*)
Claudia M. Barrett (*pro hac vice*)
David W. Casazza (*pro hac vice*)
Amanda J. Sterling (*pro hac vice*)
Michael R. Dziuban (Va. State Bar No. 89136)
GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-5306
Telephone: (202) 955-8500
Facsimile: (202) 467-0539
epapez@gibsondunn.com
pstokes@gibsondunn.com
jmendro@gibsondunn.com
cbarrett@gibsondunn.com
dcasazza@gibsondunn.com
asterling@gibsondunn.com
mdziuban@gibsondunn.com

Counsel for Plaintiffs Amazon.com, Inc. and Amazon Data Services, Inc.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on June 28, 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system. I will then send the document and a notification of such filing (NEF) to the following parties via U.S. mail to their last-known address and by email, where noted:

CTBSRM, Inc.
6870 W 52nd Ave., Ste. 203
Arvada, CO 80002

Rodney Atherton
12863 West 87th Ave.
Arvada, CO 80005
By email: jpalmer@hccw.com

Demetrius Von Lacey
2845 Des Moines Dr.,
Fort Collins, CO 80525

Casey Kirschner
635 N. Alvarado Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447
By email: casey.kirschner@gmail.com

2010 Irrevocable Trust
6870 W 52nd Ave., Ste. 203
Arvada, CO 80002

Sigma Regenerative Solutions, LLC
6870 W 52nd Ave., Ste. 203
Arvada, CO 80002

s/ Michael R. Dziuban

Michael R. Dziuban
GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-5306
Telephone: (202) 955-8500
Facsimile: (202) 467-0539
mdziuban@gibsondunn.com

*Counsel for Plaintiffs Amazon.com, Inc. and Amazon
Data Services, Inc*